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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,653	03/19/2004	Gregory Eugene Borchers	SLA1495	7770
50735	7590	08/23/2007		
MADSON & AUSTIN 15 WEST SOUTH TEMPLE SUITE 900 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101			EXAMINER THAI, HANH B	
			ART UNIT 2163	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/23/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/804,653

mn
Applicant(s)

BORCHERS, GREGORY EUGENE

Examiner

Hanh B. Thai

Art Unit

2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment filed 6/19/07.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a Non-Final Office Action in response to the amendment and the RCE filed June 19, 2007. Independent claims 1, 12, 16 and 17 have been amended. Claims 1-17 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-17 are objected to because of the following informalities: the "MFP" and "SNMP" need to spell in full. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over French et al. (US 2003/0041238 A1), in view of Wilson, JR. (US 2003/0088651 A1).

Regarding claim 1, French et al. teaches a method of associating drivers and MFPs connected to a network comprising automatically discovering MFDs by a printer administration utility; building an MFP database comprising data regarding the MFP discovered by the printer administration utility (see paragraph [0064], [0077], [0219] and [0408], French); automatically discovering printer drivers by the printer administration utility, wherein the automatic

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discovering of printer drivers includes the discovery of updated drivers (see paragraph [0219] and [0408], French); automatically building, by the printer administration utility, a driver database comprising data identifying at least one MFP each driver is applicable to" (see paragraph [0064], [0077], French); automatically analyzing the MFP database and the driver database by the printer administration utility to determine allowable MFP/printer driver combination (see paragraph [0219] and [0408], French).

French does not explicitly teach "a relationship database wherein an allowable MFP/printer driver combination is a printer driver and at least one compatible MFP". Wilson, JR teaches "a relationship database wherein an allowable MFP/printer driver combination is a printer driver and at least one MFP" (see Fig. 7-8; paragraph [0004]; [0049] and [0058]-[0060], Wilson). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention for one of ordinary skill in the art to have combined the teachings of French and Wilson, because using the steps of " a relationship database wherein an allowable MFP/printer driver combination is a printer driver and at least one MFP ", would have given those skilled in the art the tools to associate related printer drivers with associated databases data. This gives users the advantage of associating printer drivers with related devices more efficiently (see paragraph [0010], Wilson).

Regarding claim 2, French et al. teaches "wherein discovering MFPs comprises using SNMP to locate and identify an MFP" (see paragraph [0092]-[0093], French).

Regarding claim 3, French et al. "wherein building an MFP database comprises parsing standard printer MIB data" (see paragraph [0068] and [0077], French).

Regarding claim 4, this claim is rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected including the following:

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French et al. "wherein discovering drivers comprises locating a printer driver file comprising metadata within a printer driver repository" (see paragraph [0085] and [0159]).

Regarding claim 5, French et al. teaches "wherein the metadata is XML metadata" (see paragraph [0085]).

Regarding claim 6, French et al. "wherein the metadata identifies each MFP capable of being associated with each printer driver" (see paragraph [0085] and [0107]).

Regarding claim 7, French et al. teaches "wherein building the printer driver database comprises parsing the metadata" (see paragraph [0107] and [0159]).

Regarding claim 8, French et al. teaches "wherein building a relationship database comprises creating a relational database with a many-to-many relationship linking a primary key of the MFP database with a primary key of the printer driver database of each allowable combination of MFP/printer driver relationships based upon MFP model and printer driver model compatibility" (see paragraph [0245] and [0256]).

Regarding claims 9-10, French et al. teaches "comprising constraining the drivers prior to discovering the printer drivers..." (see paragraph [0257]).

Regarding claim 11, French et al. teaches "constraining the associated MFP/printer driver combinations prior to building the relationship database" (see paragraph [0159] and [0256]).

Regarding claims 12-15, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-4 and 8 and are similarly rejected.

Regarding claims 16-17, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-4 and 8 and are similarly rejected including the

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following: French et al. Teaches "a fourth software routine for building a printer driver database" (see paragraph [0256] and [0076]).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. Wang et al. (US 2005/0068558 A1) disclose method and system to automatically update in real-time a printer driver configuration.

2. Hansen et al. (US 2007/0005736 A1) disclose configuring a network gateway.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B. Thai whose telephone number is 571-272-4029. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur (7:00AM - 4:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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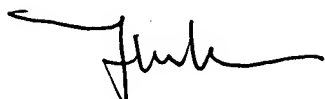
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Hanh B Thai

Examiner

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August 17, 2007

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hong Vy".

Hong Vy

For SPE DON WONG